Please amend the Application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

The present listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Claims 1-18. (Cancelled)

Claim 19. (Previously Presented) An optical recording material for at least one of binary, multibit and volume data storage, comprising:

(a) at least one dyestuff selected from polymeric azo dyestuffs, said dyestuff changing its spatial arrangement upon irradiation with polarized electromagnetic radiation; and

(b) optionally at least one grouping having form anisotropy,

wherein,

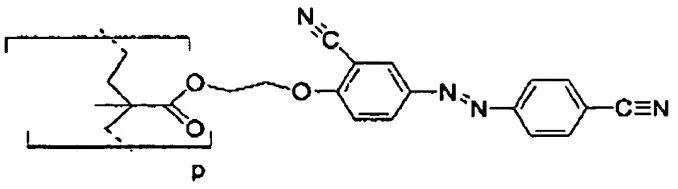
(i) the absorption maximum of the dyestuff is at least one of, at least 30 nm less than 400 nm and at least 30 nm greater than 400 nm,

(ii) at 400 nm the dyestuff reaches an optical density of not more than 60% of its absorption maximum,

(iii) said optical recording material has the capacity for being rewritten on by changing the state of polarization of actinic light, an intensity of at least 80% of the original value being achieved after a deletion/rewriting cycle, and

(iv) wherein at 400 nm, under identical conditions, an optical writing operation upon said optical recording material proceeds no more slowly than at 500 nm, and birefringence values induced during said optical writing operation do not differ from those birefringence values induced at 500 nm by more than 10%,

further wherein said polymeric azo dyestuff is a polymer represented by the following formula XIV,



XIV

p being between 10 and 1,000.

Claim 20. (Previously Presented) An optical recording material for at least one of binary, multibit and volume data storage, comprising:

(a) at least one dyestuff selected from polymeric azo dyestuffs, said dyestuff changing its spatial arrangement upon irradiation with polarized electromagnetic radiation; and

(b) optionally at least one grouping having form anisotropy,

wherein,

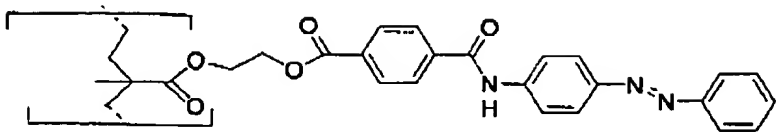
(i) the absorption maximum of the dyestuff is at least one of, at least 30 nm less than 400 nm and at least 30 nm greater than 400 nm,

(ii) at 400 nm the dyestuff reaches an optical density of not more than 60% of its absorption maximum,

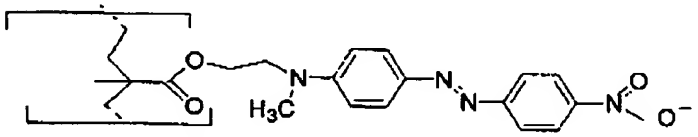
(iii) said optical recording material has the capacity for being rewritten on by changing the state of polarization of actinic light, an intensity of at least 80% of the original value being achieved after a deletion/rewriting cycle, and

(iv) wherein at 400 nm, under identical conditions, an optical writing operation upon said optical recording material proceeds no more slowly than at 500 nm, and birefringence values induced during said optical writing operation do not differ from those birefringence values induced at 500 nm by more than 10%,

further wherein said polymeric azo dyestuff is a polymer represented by the following formula XV,



x



y

XV

wherein the molar ratio of x : y is between 10:90 and 90:10.

Claim 21. (Previously Presented) An optical recording material for at least one of binary, multibit and volume data storage, comprising:

(a) at least one dyestuff selected from polymeric azo dyestuffs, said dyestuff changing its spatial arrangement upon irradiation with polarized electromagnetic radiation; and

(b) optionally at least one grouping having form anisotropy,

wherein,

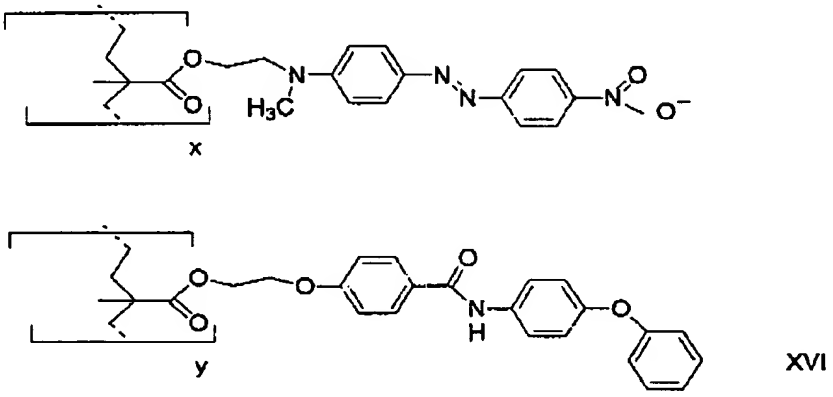
(i) the absorption maximum of the dyestuff is at least one of, at least 30 nm less than 400 nm and at least 30 nm greater than 400 nm,

(ii) at 400 nm the dyestuff reaches an optical density of not more than 60% of its absorption maximum,

(iii) said optical recording material has the capacity for being rewritten on by changing the state of polarization of actinic light, an intensity of at least 80% of the original value being achieved after a deletion/rewriting cycle, and

(iv) wherein at 400 nm, under identical conditions, an optical writing operation upon said optical recording material proceeds no more slowly than at 500 nm, and birefringence values induced during said optical writing operation do not differ from those birefringence values induced at 500 nm by more than 10%,

further wherein said polymeric azo dyestuff is a polymer represented by the following formula XVI,



XVI

wherein the molar ratio of x : y is between 10:90 and 90:10.

Claim 22. (New) The optical recording material of Claim 19 wherein said optical recording material is optically written upon using electromagnetic radiation that is light in a laser wavelength range of between 380 to 420 nm.

Claim 23. (New) A storage system comprising the optical recording material of Claim 19.

Claim 24. (New) The storage system of Claim 23 wherein said storage system further comprises a reflection layer.

Claim 25. (New) The optical recording material of Claim 20 wherein said optical recording material is optically written upon using electromagnetic radiation that is light in a laser wavelength range of between 380 to 420 nm.

Claim 26. (New) A storage system comprising the optical recording material of Claim 20.

Claim 27. (New) The storage system of Claim 26 wherein said storage system further comprises a reflection layer.

Claim 28. (New) The optical recording material of Claim 21 wherein said optical recording material is optically written upon using electromagnetic radiation that is light in a laser wavelength range of between 380 to 420 nm.

Claim 29. (New) A storage system comprising the optical recording material of Claim 21.

Claim 30. (New) The storage system of Claim 29 wherein said storage system further comprises a reflection layer.